

REMARKS

Claims 23-31 are currently pending. No amendments have been made to claims 23-31.

Applicants have amended the first sentence of the specification to include the Related Applications section outlining the priority claim. The benefit claim was timely made and was recognized by the Office on the official filing receipt of the current application.

The Examiner rejected claims 23-31 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,529,758. Applicants have included herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 23-31.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,



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